

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 622

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to designate May 19, 2006, as "NASCAR Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) held its first sanctioned race in 1948, and since that time, NASCAR has grown into a national sport with an estimated 75 million fans; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, NASCAR began an annual charity event called "NASCAR Day," which unites NASCAR fans across the country by enabling them to participate in a common humanitarian effort; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2006, NASCAR established the NASCAR Foundation, a non-profit entity that embodies the compassion of the NASCAR Family and its commitment to serving communities through a wide range of charitable initiatives; the NASCAR Foundation uses the strength of the sport and its people to make a difference in the lives of those who need it most; and

WHEREAS, through the NASCAR Foundation, the general public is afforded opportunities to become involved with the community service projects NASCAR supports; the largest annual charity event sponsored by the Foundation is "NASCAR Day"; more than 2,500 companies participated in NASCAR Day last year, with the initiative benefiting the three designated charities, Victory Junction Gang Camp, Speediatrics, and Speedway Children's Charities; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee joins with twenty-five other states in recognizing "NASCAR Day," a one-day celebration of the NASCAR spirit; "NASCAR Day" is an opportunity for fans across Tennessee and the Nation to show their support for the sport they love by donating to the NASCAR Foundation; and

WHEREAS, after making their donations, participants will receive an official NASCAR Day lapel pin and have the opportunity to wear their favorite NASCAR apparel to work; in just its second year, 240,000 pins were sold for NASCAR Day 2005, raising 1.2 million dollars overall; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly commends the work of the NASCAR Foundation in bringing together drivers, teams, fans, industry partners, and others to serve the causes and charities that reflect the core values of the entire NASCAR Family; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby designate May 19, 2006, as "NASCAR Day" in Tennessee and encourage NASCAR fans across the State to support the charitable efforts of the NASCAR Foundation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.